

Dear Fire Academy Applicant:

Thank you for your interest in the Palomar College Firefighter 1 Academy. We hope this program will help you in your preparation for a career in the Fire Service. The Palomar College Firefighter 1 Academy is a college course that is accredited by the California State Fire Marshall. Completion of the Academy allows the candidate to work as a Firefighter in compliance with State Fire Marshal Standards. The Academy carries 18 units of college elective credit that can be applied toward a Palomar College Fire Technology Certificate or A.A. Degree.

Please read the information provided to you in the following pages and follow the instructions carefully when filling out your application. ***Incomplete application packages, or failure to comply with these procedures, may preclude your acceptance to the academy.*** We thank you again for your interest and look forward to your participation within our program.

Minimum Requirements:

- Minimum Age Of 18 Years
- High School Graduate (or equivalent)
- Valid California EMT-1 or National Registry
- CPR Certification
- Free From Felony Conviction
- Valid Driver's License
- Qualification for English 50 *(determined by Palomar College's assessment test or equivalent)*
- Pass the North County Physical Agility Test
- Pass an Oral Interview
- Complete & Pass a Medical Examination

Acceptance:

To get accepted into the academy we use a point system which takes into account your education, experience, and how you do on the oral interview. We accept the 40 highest ranking applicants into our program.

Schedule:

The Academy is offered in a condensed 13-week format. Monday –Friday 0500-1700 the entire program works out to be 576 hours (not including the extensive physical fitness program). Class locations include the Public Safety Training Center, Palomar College main campus, the City of Escondido Fire Department Training Facility, Mission Hills High School of San Marcos and several other field locations.

Expenses:

Recruits can expect to pay approximately \$1200-\$2000 in costs for the enrollment into the academy. These costs cover tuition, books, certifications, uniforms, and a non-refundable materials fee.

Tuition:	\$360.00	(18 units x \$20.00 per unit)
Health Fee:	17.00	
Student Center Fee	18.00	
Parking Permit:	40.00	
Materials Fee:	<u>600.00</u>	
	= \$1,035.00	

PT Gear: 40.00*
Class B: 120.11*

**Uniforms are purchased through companies separate from Palomar College. The PT Gear price includes the required shirt and shorts but does not include the optional hat, sweatshirt, & sweatpants. The Class B price includes the shirt (with appropriate name embroidery), patch, tie, tie bar, pants & belt. This price does not include the boots, pens, etc. In addition, recruits are recommended to purchase more than one set of both the PT Gear and the Class B uniforms.*

Physical Training:

Physical training is an important component of the Academy. All candidates must be in good physical condition before entering the Academy. Training includes calisthenics, running, swimming, aerobics, and aerobic step exercises. Candidates will be required to complete a personal history report and statement indicating freedom from physical disabilities, which would restrict physical training. Applicants that are unable to perform typical firefighting tasks will not be accepted into the academy.

Conduct:

The Academy is run in a paramilitary fashion. Candidates are expected to adhere to strict rules of conduct. Appearance and grooming standards are enforced. All questions regarding Academy operations and expectations will be answered during the official orientation after appointment to the academy.

Applications:

All applications are **due** in the Fire Technology Office (182 Santar Pl.) Candidates must attach copies of all required certifications as outlined in this application package. This includes current EMT, CPR and driver's licenses, transcripts, certifications, and any other information required to support experience, training, and education. Letters from employers and volunteer agencies will be accepted to verify all experience. Candidates will be ranked in the application process based on their level of education, training and experience as provided on the application.

Physical Ability Test:

All candidates will be required to pass a Physical Abilities Test. Details of the test and the test date(s) will be made available after all applications have been received.

English Assessment Test

All candidates will be required to take a Palomar College English and Reading Assessment Test. Candidates must obtain a test score qualifying them for a minimum of English 50. If a candidate is currently qualified for English 50 or has already attended the course, please include transcripts or other supporting official documentation. **All candidates must attach all necessary supporting documentation to the Academy application including assessment test results.**

Call the Assessment Office at (760) 744-1150 ext 2383 or 2476 for more information on this test.

Acceptance:

The College will notify all candidates who successfully pass all phases of the testing process. There will be a wait list established. Candidates who are on the wait list will be admitted to the Academy if positions become available prior to the Academy start date.

Medical Examination:

Successful candidates will be required to participate in and pass a medical examination. Candidates will be notified when to schedule their individual examination upon notification of acceptance into the Academy.

Once Accepted:

- All candidates will attend a mandatory orientation on a scheduled date prior to the start date of the Academy
- All candidates will apply or reapply to Palomar College
- Once candidates have an active Student ID Number they will be mass enrolled into the Fire Academy and will have 2 weeks to pay Palomar College fees
- All candidates will pay fees by the required dates or will be dismissed
- Text books and other materials will be issued on the first day

